



Lutheran Hour Ministries Regional Outreach Conference

Friday, February 18, 2011
Remarks by Gov. Jan Brewer

Thank you, Bruce!

And, good evening, everyone!

I'm delighted to be with you this evening to help launch your Regional Outreach Conference – and all of Arizona is honored that the FIRST of Lutheran Hour Ministries' EIGHT conferences of 2011 is being held in our great state.

And, let me take a moment to congratulate Pastor Greg Seltz on his new position as Speaker of The Lutheran Hour. God bless you, Pastor Seltz, for taking the microphone and sharing the Bible's message!

The man you've heard week in -- and week out -- now Speaker Emeritus Rev. Ken Klaus, has blessed many people with words of comfort and hope. We're grateful that even with his retirement, he continues to serve this organization.

Thank you, Reverend Klaus.

It's hard to be in a roomful of Lutherans and not see in the distance ... a certain Lake – a lake where ... "*WOES ARE GONE.*"

... Especially when Lutherans SING.

Garrison Keillor has made fun of Lutherans for years ... but he DID say that SINGING with them is one of the main joys of his life -- along with hot baths and fresh sweet corn.

Here's what he said about singing the hymn "Children of the Heavenly Father" in a room with about three thousand Lutherans in it:

"When we finished, we all had tears in our eyes, partly from the promise that God will NOT forsake us – and partly from the proximity of all those lovely voices.

"By our joining in harmony, we somehow promise that we will not forsake each other.

"I do believe this: Lutherans are the sort of people you could call up when you're in deep distress. If you're dying, they'll comfort you. If you're lonely, they'll talk to you. And if you're hungry, they'll give you tuna salad!"

Mr. Keillor is right.

There's nothing like the song of God's people accompanied by their heart-felt service for Him.

All of those who are part of Lutheran Hour Ministries, through faithful service, share the Gospel in word and deed with people around the world.

We celebrate your mission of "Bringing Christ to the Nations — and the nations to the Church."

I'm a Lutheran.

I know how important it is to improve your ability to share the faith that you have.

I encourage you all to never give up trying to share the hope you have in Jesus. It's what gets us through any trial in life and gives us all hope for the future.

Thank you all for your commitment to shining the light of Christ into our world.

God bless you, as you bless others this weekend.

Thank you.